

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a tablet core consisting essentially of a mixture of fexofenadine or a pharmaceutical acceptable acid addition salt thereof, about 10 wt. % to about 70 wt. % of lactose, and about 1 wt. % to about 40 wt. % of a low-substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose, ~~all of which are dispersed in the tablet core,~~ wherein the weight percents are based on the total weight of the pharmaceutical composition.

Claim 2. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the salt of fexofenadine is fexofenadine hydrochloride.

Claim 3. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the amount of fexofenadine or pharmaceutical acceptable salt thereof is from about 1 wt. % to about 80 wt. %, based on the total weight of the pharmaceutical composition.

Claim 4. (Original) The composition according to Claim 3, wherein the amount of fexofenadine or pharmaceutical acceptable salt thereof is from about 5 wt. % to about 50 wt. %, based on the total weight of the pharmaceutical composition.

Claim 5. (Original) The composition according to Claim 4, wherein the amount of fexofenadine or pharmaceutical acceptable salt thereof is from about 20 wt. % to about 35 wt. %, based on the total weight of the pharmaceutical composition.

Claim 6. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the amount of fexofenadine or pharmaceutical acceptable salt thereof is from about 10 mg to about 200 mg.

Claim 7. (Original) The composition according to Claim 6, wherein the amount of fexofenadine or pharmaceutical acceptable salt thereof is from about 30 mg to about 180 mg.

Claim 8. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the lactose is selected from the group consisting of lactose monohydrate, lactose anhydrous, α -lactose, β -lactose, and combinations thereof.

Claim 9. (Original) The composition according to Claim 8, wherein the lactose is lactose monohydrate.

Claim 10. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the amount of lactose is from about 25 wt. % to about 65 wt. %, based on the total weight of the pharmaceutical composition.

Claim 11. (Original) The composition according to Claim 10, wherein the amount of lactose is from about 50 wt. % to about 60 wt. %, based on the total weight of the pharmaceutical composition.

Claim 12. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the low-substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose when dried at 105 °C for 1 hour contains 5-16% of hydroxypropoxy groups.

Claim 13. (Original) The composition according to Claim 12, wherein the low-substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose when dried at 105 °C for 1 hour contains 10-13% of hydroxypropoxy groups.

Claim 14. (Original) The composition according to Claim 13, wherein the low-substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose is selected from the group consisting of: LH-11 having a hydroxypropoxy content of 11% and an average particle size of 50 microns; LH-21 having a hydroxypropoxy content of 11% and an average particle size of 40 microns; LH-31 having a hydroxypropoxy content of 11%, and an average particle size of 25 microns; LH-22 having a hydroxypropoxy content of 8%, and an average particle size of 40 microns; LH-32 having a hydroxypropoxy content of 8%, and an average particle size of 25 microns; LH-20 having a hydroxypropoxy content of 13%, and an average particle size of 40 microns; and LH-30 having a hydroxypropoxy content of 13%, and an average particle size of 25 microns.

Claim 15. (Original) The composition according to Claim 14, wherein the low-substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose is LH-21 or LH-11.

Claim 16. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the low-substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose is present in an amount of from about 2 wt. % to about 25 wt. %.

Claim 17. (Original) The composition according to Claim 16, wherein the low-substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose is present in an amount of from about 3 wt. % to about 15 wt. %.

Claim 18. (Previously Presented) A method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition consisting essentially of fexofenadine or a pharmaceutical acceptable acid addition salt thereof, about 10 wt. % to about 70 wt. % of lactose, and about 1 wt. % to about 40 wt. % of a low-substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose, wherein the weight percents are based on the total weight of the pharmaceutical composition, said method comprising:

- (a) mixing the aforementioned fexofenadine, lactose, and low-substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose in any desired order or sequence to form a premix;
- (b) adding a solvent to the premix formed in Step (a) to form a wet granulation; and
- (c) drying the wet granulation to form dried granules; and
- (d) mixing at least one excipient with the dried granules to form a pharmaceutical composition.

Claim 19. (Previously Presented) A method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition consisting essentially of fexofenadine or a pharmaceutical acceptable acid addition salt thereof, about 10 wt. % to about 70 wt. % of lactose, and about 1 wt. % to about 40 wt. % of a low-substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose, wherein the weight percents are based on the total weight of the pharmaceutical composition, said method comprising:

- (a) mixing the aforementioned fexofenadine, lactose, and low-substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose in any desired order or sequence to form a premix;
- (b) adding a solvent to the premix formed in Step (a) to form a wet granulation; and
- (c) drying the wet granulation using a tray dryer to form dried granules; and
- (d) mixing at least one excipient with the dried granules to form a pharmaceutical composition.

Claim 20. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 19 further comprising the step of milling the dried granules using a conical screen mill between steps (c) and (d).

Claim 21. (Currently Amended). A tablet core comprising a mixture of fexofenadine or a pharmaceutical acceptable acid addition salt thereof, about 10 wt. % to about 70 wt. % of lactose, and about 1 wt. % to about 40 wt. % of a low-substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose ~~dispersed within a tablet core~~, wherein the weight percents are based on the total weight of the ~~tablet core~~pharmaceutical composition.